## Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 L-02 IO-10 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05

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DRAFTED BY AF/S:DSIMPSON;DH
APPROVED BY AF/S:WPO'NEILL
S/R/ORM:LLARTHUR (INFO)
INR/RAA/CS:GEMOOSE (SUBS)
L/AF:CASCHMITZ (INFO)
AF/E:HHJANIN (SUBS)

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R 272038Z FEB 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 044580

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: RH, SREF

SUBJECT: RELEASE OF RHODESIAN POLITICAL PRISONERS

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. QUESTION OF RELEASE OF POLITICAL DETAINEES IN RHODESIA BY SMITH REGIME REMAINS SENSITIVE POINT IN PRELIMINARY NEGOTIATIONS REGARDING SETTLEMENT. INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO DEPARTMENT INCLUDES GENERAL REPORTS INDICATING THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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PERHAPS 100 OF POSSIBLE 300-400 ZANU, ZAPU, FROLIZI,

AND ANC MEMBERS HELD BY RHODESIANS HAVE BEEN RELEASED SINCE SMITH'S DECEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT.

2. DEPARTMENT RECEIVED REPORT FEBRUARY 27 FROM EDDISON ZVOBGO, ZANU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER AND FORMER DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL MISSIONS OF ANC, PRESENTLY AT HARVARD LAW SCHOOL, THAT HIS LAWYER IN SALISBURY, ANTHONY EASTWOOD OF SCANLAN AND HOLDERNESS, HAD INFORMED HIM, AFTER INQUIRING OF RHODESIAN SECRETARY FOR LAW AND ORDER, THAT ZVOBGO WOULD BE ARRESTED IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL IN RHODESIA AND CHARGED WITH BREAKING HIS HOUSE ARREST AND WITH QUOTE OFFENSES COMMITTED SINCE LEAVING RHODESIA. UNQUOTE. ZVOBGO ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT HIS INFORMATION WAS

THAT ALL MEMBERS OF ZANU AND ZAPU EXECUTIVES HAD BEEN RELEASED.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ADDRESSEES CAN PROVIDE TO CLARIFY QUESTION OF NUMBER AND PROPORTION OF POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED. POINT BEARS NOT ONLY ON PROSPECTS FOR NEGOTIATIONS BUT ALSO ON ADVISEABILITY OF RETURN TO RHODESIA BY POLITICAL EXILES IN SURROUNDING COUNTRIES, UK, AND US. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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TAGS: SREF, PINS, RH

To: LUSAKA

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